Dear Phil,

9/25/78

The assassins' hearings load me even more so my response to your 9/21 will be brief.

I hope we can get together. I do not know whether or not I'll be in D.C. that time. I will only if court work requires. As of now nothing on any calendar for that week. I'm in court Thursday. Doubt there will be a hearing in a week again even though the judge is impatient with the govt.

When I go there it is by bus, awkward with poor schedule thus I go only when I have no choice. It is unwise for me to drive that far because since the thrombosis the blood puddles in my feet and lower legs and I get somewhat hazy in the head. If I can keep my feet up I can ride okay.

It is only a little over an hour if you can come here. Expressway to within 7 minutes, too. Hope you can. I do not expect to be away at all except for short local errands. And I have so much to catch up on after all the time taken by the hearings!

I am not up to date on how one gets to be a Congressional aide - by which I take it you mean regular staff employee. If of the body there didn't use to be any civil service and it was always through some connection, which need not be of the party in power. If of a Member each is individual, each hires his own. I'm sure this is still true, Congress being what it is. But I know that some were not hired on politics only. Few, I'm sure, for sex, which has attracted much attention.

With this and with foreign service I think your best opening is through a Tenn. Congressman or Senator. I suppose if you do not want to do this the best thing would be to phone State public information office prior to coming up. I'm confident they'll line something up, probably what they would prefer but also likely to be reasonably close to reality.

I'm also inclined to believe that if you phone the local office of one of your Members he'll make all the arrangements with State and arrange to cue you in on how they do what in Congress.

If you don't want a pretty face and the possibility of pseudo cheesecake you may want to make your own selection of the general type of foreign service employee you'd prefer. I'm sure, for example, that most are male and that most of the clerical-secretarial are still female, with only a small fraction of Officers female.

I do hope you can get here. There is much for which I want to thank you, including for the recent clips. If there is either wire service, Scripps or staff reporting on the JFK hearings I see only the Post, which is selective and tends to play one angle and ignore the rest.

Best,